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Copy 4 of 5

5 December 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director of Materiel

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SUBJECT : Space Requirements for [redacted]

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1. I had a discussion with [redacted] this morning on ways and means of meeting [redacted] space requirements as of 1 March 1956. I told Al the substance of the Memorandum you signed to Mr. Bissell and he agreed that the idea of utilizing a [redacted] hutment for the [redacted] working space was a good one and was probably the least expensive course of action we could take.

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2. Accordingly, I asked Al if he would see if he could get any more definite information from [redacted] regarding utilities and power requirements inherent in such a structure and then we agreed that Al would rough up a sketch showing what modifications he believed necessary in the basic hutment structure to enable it to function as suitable [redacted] working space. Further, we agreed that it would be a good idea to locate such a hutment not far from the present maintenance building, the exact distance to be dictated by fire requirements so that our electronic suppliers could be fairly concentrated in one area of the Base (as you know, [redacted] is now in the east end of the maintenance building).

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3. In view of what was said this morning about the likely postponement of our operational target date from 1 April to 1 May, it seems to me that we cannot rely upon the deployment of Base A to syphon off surplus personnel at [redacted] thereby opening up some of the working space now taken up by [redacted] and others. In order to avoid premium overtime costs, my own recommendation for your consideration would be that we undertake to construct a hutment as provided above in sufficient time (60 days before 1 March 1956) to enable it to be built at Mercury by the normal [redacted] staff there. If we wait beyond the 1st of the year to get started on this, we will end up building it under search lights at prohibitive costs to the Project. If you agree with these recommendations, you may wish to bring this matter up to Mr. Bissell at a staff meeting later this month.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Director of Administration
PCS/DCI

JAC:mah

Orig - PW

2 - GFK

3 - [redacted] Construction

4 - chrono ✓

5 - reading

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